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Remarks

In the Office Action dated February 15, 2006, the Examiner rejected claims 4-6 and 7-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 112; rejected claims 1, 9-10, 13 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,651,077 to East et al. ("East"); rejected claims 2, 12 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of East, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,681,304 to Vogt et al. ("Vogt"); rejected claims 3-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of East, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,195,732 to Adams et al. ("Adams"); rejected claims 7 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of East, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,415,383 to Colegrove et al. ("Colegrove").

By way of the present amendment, Applicants propose amending claims 1 and 13. No new matter has been added by the way of the present amendment. Claims 2-12 and 14-15 would be pending upon entry of the present amendment.

Rejection of Claims 4-6 and 7-8 under 35 USC § 112

Applicants submit that the proposed change to claim 1 "a processor coupled to the interface and memory, the processor issuing queries and commands to the storage device's controller, the processor storing all or part of the response in the memory, upon command the processor issues commands to restore the storage device's controller to its original state," provides sufficient

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antecedent basis for claims 4-6 as one skilled in the art would understand that one of the commands that can be sent to a drive controller is a request for the Identify Device Packet. Similarly one knowledgeable in the art would understand that "Enable/Disable Address Offset Mode" is a command that can be sent to a drive controller.

Rejection of Claims 1, 9-10, 13 and 15 in View of East

Applicants agree with The Examiner that claims 1 and 13 as written were too broad. Applicants submit that the proposed changes to claim 1 and 13 emphasize that the current invention is a stand-alone, dedicated function device for the sole purpose of changing the state of a long-term memory controller and subsequently restoring the controller to its original state.

East discloses techniques for a general-use computer to restore data in a general-use database. East is completely unrelated to a stand-alone, dedicated function device for changing the state of a long-term memory controller and subsequently restoring the controller to its original state.

For at least these reasons, Applicants submit that East, does not disclose or suggest each feature of claim 1. Accordingly, the rejection of this claim should be withdrawn. The rejections of claims 2-12 are also improper, at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 1. Applicants further submit that East, does not disclose or suggest each feature of claim 13. Accordingly, the rejection of this

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claim should be withdrawn. The rejections of claims 14-15 are also improper, at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 1.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner's reconsideration of this application, and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Applicants respectfully request entry of the present amendment because the amendment places the application in immediate condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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